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LB 373

SENATOR BOURNE: ...of work on this, I'm trying to figure out exactly, precisely what your amendment does before I say, yeah, let's go ahead and do it. I don't want to weaken this bill any further than what already...than we have, because we've made extensive compromises over the years. So I guess I don't have in my mind a clear answer as to what specifically you're trying to do.

SENATOR PREISTER: I guess I can't think off the top of my head of a specific example that might help you which would make it easier for you to understand. But regulations that are established by various departments have varying degrees of impact on the public. A specific one that may apply to someone directly may also impact somebody else indirectly. And by adding the public, I'm just...it's a slight expansion, I guess, but I'm making sure that we don't leave somebody out as these agencies are creating these rules and regulations. As I look at the intent...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Bourne.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...of what's trying to be done here, it's to address the public and to make sure we're doing what's right for them.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator. Thank you, Senator Bourne. On with discussion of the Preister amendment. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President and members, the Government Committee spent a lot of time on this bill, trying to make sure that we had a process that guaranteed that we had some input, as the policymakers, in how the...how our policy is defined by the agencies, but we wanted to be very, very careful that that process not just be one more hoop that we jump through and one more layer of bureaucracy that becomes an end unto itself, and that's why the committee was so careful to define who could participate. And it was in no way to be exclusionary; in fact, exactly the opposite. We exist, as the policymaking body, as representatives of the public. And our whole process is to arrive at good decisions with the input of the public coming through us. I think that even though this may seem to be a